**REQUEST**

FOR

**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number

09/993,897

Filing Date

November 27, 2001

First Named Inventor

FUKUMI

Group Art Unit

2812

Examiner Name

Roman, Angel

Attorney Docket Number

829-590

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**a. ☒ Previously submittedi. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on

December 30, 2002

(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed oniii. ☐ Otherb. ☐ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other2. **Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-1140i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Other

02/21/2003 SSESHE1 00000032 09993897

01 FC:1801

02 FC:1252

750.00 OP

410.00 OP

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1160.00 for RCE Filing Fee and 2-

Month EOT Fee is enclosed herewith

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (For PTO-2038 enclosed)**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print Type)

Joseph A. Rhoads

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

37,515

Signature

Date

February 20, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

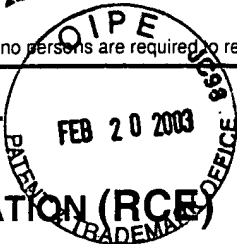
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print Type)

Signature

Date

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(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
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3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 14-1140
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Joseph A. Rhoa	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,515
Signature		Date	February 20, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print Type)		Date	
Signature		Date	